regarding kidnapping of the General Manager and Chief Engineer of National Hydro-electric Power Corporation (NHPC) for ransom and looting of chain, ring, mobile phone and a vehicle. As a result of police action, the General Manager was rescued on 16.11.2004 and the Chief Engineer on 4.12.2004 without paying any ransom. Five accused persons have been arrested in this case.

Demand for Economic Package by Madhya Pradesh

2109. SHRI KALRAJ MISHRA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be
pleased to state:

(a) whether Government of Madhya Pradesh has submitted any comprehensive programme for all round development of the State, bring out from BIMARU category and has demanded any economic package from the Centre to help it out;

(b) if so, details thereof and the package sought by the State; and

(c) the Central Government's response and reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MANIKRAO GAVIT): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. The Chief Minister of Madhya
Pradesh submitted a Memorandum to the hon'ble Prime Minister on 15.7.2004 desiring a special economic package citing specific issues relating to high poverty ratio and employment for BPL families, golden Quadrilateral and rural roads, power sector issues, conservation and protection of forest cover, Pench irrigation projects and Mid-day Meal scheme etc.

The State Government is being assisted through various Centrally Sponsored Schemes and one time Additional Central Assistance (ACA) provided at the time of finaiisation of Annual Plans. The State Government was provided one time ACA of Rs. 56.78 crore during Annual Plan 2004-05.

Indo-UK Agreement Regarding Illegal Immigrants

2110. SHRI LALITSURI: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased
to state:

(a) whether India and U.K. have recently negotiated an agreement for the return of illegal immigrants to the country of their origin;

(b) if so, the specific terms of the agreements;

(c) the number of Indian citizens living as illegal immigrants in U.K. as on January 1st, 2004;

(d) the number of citizens of U.K. living in India as illegal immigrants as on the same date; and

(e) by when all the illegal immigrants are expected to return to the countries of their origin?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): (a) Yes, Sir. A Memorandum of Understanding on the subject was signed between the two Governments on 31.1.2004.

(b) A statement is attached. (See below)

(c) No such data is available.

(d) As on 1st January, 2004,4 UK nationals were living in India illegally.

(e) It is not possible to specify the time frame as this involves legal action.

Statement

Details of the specific terms of Indo-UK agreement

(1) The Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) signed between the two Government on 30.01.2004 was to establish a Pilot Project, which will serve as the basis for the return of Indian immigration offenders from the UK to India.

(2) Where the illegal immigrant acknowledges that he is an Indian national, the UK shall provide the High Commission of India (HCI) with a signed application for the issue of an Indian travel document. The HCI will transmit this information to the MEA/MHA for the Indian authorities to carry out the necessary nationality checks. The enquiry will normally be completed within three months from the date the UK provides the HCI with the application form. The Government of India (GoI), on satisfaction will authorize the HCI to issue an Indian travel document for the individual to return to India.

(3) Where the individual declines to cooperate in the identification

process, the UK shall provide the HCI the particulars available with them. The GoI after satisfying that the person is an Indian national, will authorize the HCI to issue a travel document.

(4) The UK shall meet the full cost of travel of each returnee to his place of origin in India.

(5) The MoU shall be in force upto 29.01.2005.

Additional grant to naxal hit States for road construction

2111. SHRI KARNENDU BHATTACHARJEE: Will the Minister of HOME
AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to float a plan for providing additional grant to naxal hit States for road construction to contain insurgency in the country; and

(b) the existing grants allocated to the backward districts affected by Naxalism?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): (a) The Ministry of Rural Development has made a special allocation of Rs. 37.50 crores per annum for construction of rural/district roads in the critical clusters in the naxal affected areas under the Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana.

(b) 55 naxal affected districts have been included under the Rashtriya Sam Vikas Yojana (Backward Districts Initiative) of the Planning Commission under which a grant of Rs. 15 crores is given per district per year for 3 years (starting from 2003-04) to fill in the critical gaps in physical and social infrastructure including construction of roads in naxal affected areas.

Canteen facility for ex-servicemen of Assam Rifles

†2112. SHRI HARISH RAWAT: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the ex-servicemen of Assam Rifles are demanding the facility of canteen on the lines of ex-servicemen of armed services;

(b) if so, whether serving soldiers in Assam Rifles are provided rum etc. as provided to the soldiers in armed services; and

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.